

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that there is not proposal for change in summer vacation period or dates.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Seats reserved for foreign students in Technical Institutions

4651. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether as much as 15 per cent of seats in higher education institutions, including technical ones, are being made available to foreign students;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and since when this practice is being followed;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is a stiff competition among the Indian students for seeking admission to technical courses;

(d) whether Government would consider to stop the practice of foreign admissions; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (e) All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) notified regulations in the official gazette on 31st March, 2001 regarding admission of 15 per cent seats in all the AICTE approved institutions on supernumerary basis from amongst foreign nationals/persons of Indian Origin (PIOs). Similarly, in the case of Higher Education, University Grants Commission conveyed its decision on 13th October, 2000 to all the Universities to create 15 per cent supernumerary seats for foreign students (who possess a foreign Passport). Under no circumstances, a seat remained unfilled shall be allocated to any person other than foreign student/PIO. Factors guiding the decision include helping countries with fewer and less developed facilities in the area of higher education, broadening the horizons of Indian students by exposing them to their counterparts from other countries, fostering understanding among

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people of various races, etc. Admission to these 15% supernumerary seats meant for foreign nationals/PIOs will not have any impact on admission of Indian students as it is over and above the approved intake meant for our own students.

World campaign for Education

[†]4652. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is an active member of South Asian Anti-Child Servitude Organization and is eager to implement total literacy in the country under World campaign for Education;

(b) if so, whether a time bound national action plan has been formulated for the same so that benefit of international initiatives can be taken; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the efforts made to mobilize indigenous resources and to provide required facilities for elementary education together with the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) This Ministry is not aware of any organization by the name of South Asian Anti-Child Servitude Organization.

(c) Recently Government has launched Sarva Siksha Abhiyan which aims to provide elementary education for all children in the age group of 6-14 year in a time bound manner.

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.